

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, after the title insert the following:

This is the U.S. national phase of Int'l Appln. No. **PCT/JP2004/014694**, filed **29 September 2004**, which designated the U.S. and claims priority benefit of **JP 2003-341419**, filed **30 September 2003**; the entire contents of each of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 8, as follows:

Result: In the synovial fluid, the phosphorothioated double-stranded decoy 1), the phosphorothioated staple decoy 2), and ~~the phosphorothioate-terminated single-stranded decoy 5)~~the non-phosphorothioated staple decoy 3) were stable; ~~the non-phosphorothioated staple decoy 3)~~the single-stranded decoy 4) was almost stable; and ~~the single-stranded decoy 4)~~the phosphorothioate-terminated single-stranded decoy 5) was decomposed.

Please replace the original Sequence Listing with the attached.